

Wildfire Prevention Month, May 1 – May 31, 2013

Do your part. Don't let a wildfire start.

May 1st –Happy Wildfire Awareness Month!

The month of May has been designated "Wildfire Awareness Month" in Idaho and local, state, federal and tribal fire response agencies are encouraging state residents to observe this month and to do their part to keep human-caused wildfires from starting. Wildfire is a part of our environment in Idaho and we all have a very important role to play in keeping our communities safe!

May 2nd - Only You Can Prevent Wildfires!

Only You Can Prevent Wildfires. Take Smokey's Wildfire Prevention Pledge at www.smokeybear.com

May 3rd – Smoking Safety

Never throw a cigarette out the window of a vehicle. Use your ashtray to prevent wildfires. Learn more at www.smokeybear.com.

May 4th –The Risk of Wildfire is Real

The risk of wildfire is real. Create a Wildfire Action Plan for Your Home. Learn more at <http://wildlandfirersg.org/>

May 5th – Equipment Maintenance

Just one spark can start a fire. Maintain your spark arrestor and don't run power equipment on windy days. Learn more at www.smokeybear.com.

May 6th – Create survivable space

Survivable space can help save your place from wildfire. Thin and prune trees within 125 ft. of your home. Learn more at: www.idahofirewise.org/

May 7th - Vehicle Safety

Never park your vehicle over dead grass, your catalytic converter can ignite the fuels and start a fire. Learn more at www.smokeybear.com.

May 8th – Remove Debris

Protect your home from wildfire. Remove leaves, pine needles, and plant debris from your roof, gutters, and deck. Learn more at www.idahofirewise.org

May 9th – Open Burning Restrictions in Idaho

Starting tomorrow burn permits are required until October 20th for debris burning. These permits can be attained at your local Idaho Department of Lands office. Some counties have burn bans so please check with your local Sheriff's Office or Fire Department.

May 10th – Idaho BLM Fire Prevention Order

Starting today, the Idaho BLM will start implementing their annual Fire Prevention Order which is applied to all public land throughout Idaho. This Order will stay in effect until October 20th, 2013; for specifics on the Order please visit www.blm.gov/id/st/en/prog/fire.html

May 11th – Know Before You Go

Know before you go. Check current fire information and restrictions by visiting (link with the new interagency fire restrictions webpage)

May 12th – Move Items That Will Burn

If fire danger is high, move items that will burn like wood piles, lawn chairs & grills away from your home. Learn more at www.idahofirewise.org

May 13th – Debris Burning Safety

Don't burn debris on windy days and make sure you have the proper permit required to conduct any type of debris or controlled burning. Prior to leaving the burned areas please make sure that all visible smokes and/or hot spots are completely extinguished.

May 14th – Wildfire and Insurance

Check your homeowners insurance to make sure you're covered for wildfire and flood damage. Visit for more information: www.disastersafety.org/wildfire/

May 15th – Target Shooting Safety

While target shooting please take all the proper precaution measures to be fire safe...select an area that is free of flammable materials, bring a fire extinguisher or water to extinguish any flames.

May 16th – Fire Resistant Construction Materials

Vents make you vulnerable. Use fire-resistant construction materials to help protect your home from embers. Learn more at www.idahofirewise.org

May 17th Campfire Safety

If your campfire is too hot to touch, it's too hot to leave. Drown, stir, and repeat until its cold. Learn more at www.smokeybear.com

May 18th – Welding and Cutting Torches

It is that time of year for many maintenance projects so please keep in mind that sparks and welding slag can cause wildfires if the proper measures are not taken. Ensure that the area is clear of all flammable materials and suppression tools are nearby.

May 19th – Fireworks are illegal on public lands

Idaho BLM Fire Prevention Order emphasizes No Fireworks on public lands. Please enjoy your local community fireworks display this 4th of July. www.blm.gov/id/st/en/prog/fire.html

May 20th - Tire Maintenance

Prior to departing this holiday weekend, please take a moment to check your tires and ensure they are properly maintained. One of the many causes of roadside fires is tire wires from the tread of vehicle tires, so please complete this safety check before embarking on that fun filled family adventure!

May 21st – Firewise landscaping your property

There are many “decorative” looking plants, shrubs and trees that are not “fire resistant” and could create a fire hazard! www.idahofirewise.org/homeowners/planning-and-design-of-firewise-landscapes

May 22nd – Are You Prepared for Wildfire?

Are you prepared for wildfire? Find out how to protect your home and community at www.fireadapted.org

May 23rd – Don't be a GUBERIF (FIREBUG spelled backwards)

Be an Ambassador for fire safety and awareness. Spread the word and encourage others to join the battle to “KEEP IDAHO GREEN!” www.idahofirewise.org/safety-prevention/the-guberif/

May 24th – Outdoor Safety for the Holiday Weekend!

Family BBQs, riding motorcycles/OHVs, roasting marshmallows, and target shooting may be on your list of many outdoor activities this holiday weekend. Please be fire safe when enjoying these and many other adventures throughout Idaho!

May 25th – Trailer Maintenance

Whether you're pulling your boat to the lake or your OHVs to the cabin for the weekend; check that your trailer is in proper condition. Make sure that your bearings are well greased, lug nuts tightened, and safety chains are fastened and not dragging. These items checked before departure will assist with a safe arrival.

May 26th – Cooking/BBQ Safety!

There are many of us that utilize either the camp grill or bring our own charcoal briquettes while recreating; if so please don't disguard your coals or ashes into nearby grass or brush. Not only can this ignite a wildfire but it is not esthetically appealing for the next user.

May 27th – Children Fire Safety!

Good Fire vs. Bad Fires. What is the difference because not all fire is bad and can be beneficial to the landscape? Smokey Bear can help you convey the difference to children please visit www.smokeybear.com

May 28th – Help Firefighters Help You!

Idaho BLM wants you to help the wildland firefighters! Please stay a safe distance from all wildfires for both your safety and that of the fire suppression crews. Report fires quickly and any suspicious activities. For more information please visit www.id.bl.gov on our Citizens and Wildland Fire Suppression initiative.

May 29th – Continue your efforts to create that defensible space!

Firewise landscaping continues long after the initial reduction of fuels and retrofitting of your home. The maintenance of a Firewise home should be conducted each spring and throughout the fire season. For more information visit www.firewise.org

May 30th – Outlook for 2013 Fire Season

The 2012 Fire Season was very destructive for Idaho; 2013 looks like we will have a cooler spring and early summer with some warming trends. Please continue to be vigilant about fire safety while out recreating and report all fires.

May 31st – The Interagency Fire Community asks you to please continue to be “FIRE SAFE” throughout the rest of the year!